GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:491
ANSWERED ON:26.11.2014
MIGRATORY BIRDS
Birla Shri Om

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been conducted with regard to the species of migratory birds visiting our country from various countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any scheme for protection of these migratory birds in various sanctuaries and for developing those areas in such a way to make a conducive environment to them; and

(d) if so, the number of such areas which have been developed in this manner till date, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a)and (b) No specific study has been conducted by the Ministry during the last five years with regard to the species of Migratory birds visiting the country. However, there is a wide availability of details about migratory birds visiting India in various books and other literature published by experts including those of Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS) and Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History (SACON).

(c)and (d) The Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 provides for declaration of Protected Areas for various objectives including propagating or developing wildlife or its environment. Under these provisions, a network of Protected Areas has been established in the country. A total of 117 Sanctuaries have a focus on protection and development of birds including migratory birds.

Many wetlands are utilized by migratory birds during the migration. The Ministry of Environment and Forests has notified the Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2010, for better protection of wetlands in the country. India is also a contracting Party to the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands and 25 wetlands in India have been notified as Ramsar sites.

Further, the Ministry provided financial assistance for protection and conservation of wild animals and birds including migratory birds and their habitats under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes viz, 'Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats', 'Project Tiger', and 'Project Elephant'.